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Dear Friend,

It looks as though both the House and Senate versions of health care legislation are stalled. With concerns expressed by Members of the Majority and Minority, the Speaker of the House has said she does not have enough votes to pass the Senate version. Since the House and Senate Leadership and the Administration are discussing - outside of public scrutiny - what to do with the health care bills, it is difficult to predict the ultimate outcome. It is clear, however, that none of the options on the table are going to bring this legislation to quick passage.

Please scroll down to the end of this e-mail to answer a brief survey regarding economic growth and job creation.

In the meantime, this presents Congress and the Administration with the perfect chance to re-focus on what has been the issue most important to the public for the past year: job creation and economic growth. With President Obama's State of the Union tonight, I hope that he will take the opportunity to show that he has heard the American people and urge Congress to listen to you by setting an agenda for the coming year focused on economic growth and jobs.

Although the majority in Congress passed legislation last year to curb the economic recession and job loss with the prediction that it would keep unemployment below eight percent, it is clear that these efforts failed to prevent double-digit unemployment rates nationally (and unemployment rates as high as 15.2 percent in parts of our area).

Unfortunately, the attempt to spend our way out of the current economic mess is likely to create future deficits and higher interest rates which jeopardize the sustainability of any recovery. Furthermore, the array of new regulatory and tax proposals coming out of the Congress has added further uncertainty to the business climate. So what should we do? I believe it is time for us to shift our immediate focus to the engine of job creation - small businesses. We should be thinking about reducing the burdens they face through tax incentives and measures which would reduce

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through tax incentives and measures which would reduce their health insurance costs by allowing small businesses to form joint risk pools.

Furthermore, I support the temporary suspension of the federal payroll tax. This will reduce the business tax rate, allowing businesses to hire new employees or spend in the economy. I believe that this will cost less than a new stimulus bill and generate more jobs by putting job creation back in the hands of the American people rather than in the government.

Congress and the Administration have a unique chance to start 2010 focused on what matters most to Americans. It is my hope that we seize this opportunity and give the private sector the tools it needs to create jobs and stimulate the economy without increasing the size of our bloated government.

Sincerely,



Daniel E. Lungren
Member of Congress

In your opinion, what would the effectiveness of infrastructure spending in creating jobs and spurring economic growth be?

- ☐ Highly effective
- ☐ Moderately effective
- ☐ No impact
- ☐ Moderately ineffective
- ☐ Highly ineffective
- ☐ Unsure

In your opinion, what would the effectiveness of stimulus checks in creating jobs and spurring economic growth be?

- ☐ Highly effective
- ☐ Moderately effective
- ☐ No impact
- ☐ Moderately ineffective
- ☐ Highly ineffective
- ☐ Unsure

In your opinion, what would the effectiveness of the suspension of the payroll tax for one year in creating jobs and spurring economic growth be?

- ☐ Highly effective
- ☐ Moderately effective

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- ☐ No impact
- ☐ Moderately ineffective
- ☐ Highly ineffective
- ☐ Unsure

In your opinion, what would the effectiveness of tax relief for individuals in creating jobs and spurring economic growth be?

- ☐ Highly effective
- ☐ Moderately effective
- ☐ No impact
- ☐ Moderately ineffective
- ☐ Highly ineffective
- ☐ Unsure

In your opinion, what would the effectiveness of tax relief for small businesses in creating jobs and spurring economic growth be?

- ☐ Highly effective
- ☐ Moderately effective
- ☐ No impact
- ☐ Moderately ineffective
- ☐ Highly ineffective
- ☐ Unsure

Any other comments?

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